

Translation

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT/IB2003/000688



PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

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| Applicant's or agent's file reference<br>B-68-471-PCT  | <b>FOR FURTHER ACTION</b> See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416) |   |
| International application No.<br>PCT/IB2003/000688   | International filing date (day/month/year)<br>25 février 2003 (25.02.2003)  | Priority date (day/month/year)<br>12 décembre 2002 (12.12.2002) |
| International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC<br>G04B 37/04, 37/14, 37/00 |   |   |
| Applicant<br>BOUILLE, Eric   |   |   |

1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.

2. This REPORT consists of a total of 5 sheets, including this cover sheet.

☒ This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e., sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).

These annexes consist of a total of 2 sheets.

3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

- I ☒ Basis of the report
- II ☐ Priority
- III ☐ Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- IV ☐ Lack of unity of invention
- V ☒ Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- VI ☐ Certain documents cited
- VII ☐ Certain defects in the international application
- VIII ☐ Certain observations on the international application

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|---|---|
| Date of submission of the demand<br>09 Jul. 2004 (09.07.2004)   | Date of completion of this report<br>01 Feb. 2005 (01.02.2005)  |
| Name and mailing address of the IPEA/EP<br>P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2<br>NL-2280 HV Rijswijk<br>Facsimile No. +31 70 340-3016 | Authorized officer<br>Burns, M<br>Telephone No. +31 70 340-8942 |

# INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.

PCT/IB2003/000688

## I. Basis of the report

1. This report has been drawn on the basis of *(Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to the report since they do not contain amendments.)*:

☐ the international application as originally filed.

☒ the description, pages 1-7, as originally filed,  
pages \_\_\_\_\_, filed with the demand,  
pages \_\_\_\_\_, filed with the letter of \_\_\_\_\_,  
pages \_\_\_\_\_, filed with the letter of \_\_\_\_\_.

☒ the claims, Nos. \_\_\_\_\_, as originally filed,  
Nos. \_\_\_\_\_, as amended under Article 19,  
Nos. \_\_\_\_\_, filed with the demand,  
Nos. 1-9, filed with the letter of 29 September 2004 (29.09.2004),  
Nos. \_\_\_\_\_, filed with the letter of \_\_\_\_\_.

☒ the drawings, sheets/fig 1/7-7/7, as originally filed,  
sheets/fig \_\_\_\_\_, filed with the demand,  
sheets/fig \_\_\_\_\_, filed with the letter of \_\_\_\_\_,  
sheets/fig \_\_\_\_\_, filed with the letter of \_\_\_\_\_.

2. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

☐ the description, pages \_\_\_\_\_

☒ the claims, Nos. 10-15

☐ the drawings, sheets/fig \_\_\_\_\_

3. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).

4. Additional observations, if necessary:

# INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.  
PCT/IB 03/00688

## I. Basis of the report

1. This report has been drawn on the basis of *(Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to the report since they do not contain amendments.)*:

1. The amendments submitted with the letter of 29 September 2004 cause the subject matter of the application to be extended beyond the content of the application as filed. Therefore, they are contrary to the provisions of PCT Article 34(2)(b). The amendments in question are as follows:

1.1 The following terms used in the new claim 1 are not found in the application as originally filed:

- attachment member,
- connecting and engaging member,
- positioning member.

1.2 The examination of the application has therefore been carried out on the basis of the claims as originally filed.

# INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.  
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## V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

### 1. Statement

|                               |        |            |     |
|-------------------------------|--------|------------|-----|
| Novelty (N)                   | Claims | 2-4, 7, 8  | YES |
|                               | Claims | 1, 5, 6, 9 | NO  |
| Inventive step (IS)           | Claims |            | YES |
|                               | Claims | 1-9        | NO  |
| Industrial applicability (IA) | Claims | 1-9        | YES |
|                               | Claims |            | NO  |

### 2. Citations and explanations

#### 1. Reference is made to the following documents:

D1: CH 674 291 A (COHEN, RAPHAËL) 31 May 1990 (1990-05-31)

D2: CH 659 167 A (ZIHLMANN, FRANÇOIS) 15 January 1987 (1987-01-15)

D3: FR-A-2 741 964 (MARESCHAL JEAN CHRISTOPHE) 6 June 1997 (1997-06-06)

#### 2. The present application fails to comply with the requirements of PCT Article 33(1) since the subject matter of claim 1 does not meet the requirement of novelty defined in PCT Article 33(2).

##### 2.1 Document D1 describes (the reference signs between parentheses apply to this document):

A device for reversing an article such as a wristwatch and conferring interchangeability thereon (page 3, column 2, lines 51-54; figure 4), including at least one reversible and interchangeable element (wristwatch 1 or strap 5), comprising a recess (19) and an attachment element (7, 8, 9, 10) projecting from and secured to the strap (figure 3) in such a

way that it is axially insertable into [optionally in a parallel direction] and movable in a direction parallel to the recess until it reaches a stop position and is rotated into the attachment position (figure 2).

- 2.2 Dependent claims 2 to 15 do not contain any features which, when combined with the features of any one of the claims to which they refer, might define subject matter that complies with the requirements of novelty and/or inventive step of the PCT (see documents D1 to D3 and the corresponding passages cited in the search report). Specifically, it should be noted that:

The subject matter of claims 2 to 4 relates to trivial measures.

The subject matter of claims 5, 6, 9, 10 and 13 to 15 is known from document D1.

The subject matter of claim 7 appears to be arbitrary and does not lead to a technical advantage over the prior art.

The subject matter of claim 8 is known in combination from documents D1 and D2.

The subject matter of claim 11 is known from document D3.

The subject matter of claim 12 is known from document D2.